

Date: Sunday, April 23, 2023 Title: Mission: The King's Witness to the World Series: Risen King: The Presence & Witness of Jesus Passage: Acts 1:8

"...though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Philippians 2:6-8

1. **My witness is** _____ (v8a)

2. My witness is _____ (v8b)

"And he said to them,

"Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." Mark 16:15-16

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' " Matthew 28:18-20

"Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.' "Luke 24:45-49

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' "John 20:21

3. My witness is ______ to reach the world. (v8c)

WHAT IS A MISSIONARY?

"One who is being sent by God and the church to cross ethnic, linguistic, geographic, national and cultural barriers to make the gospel known and to gather, serve, and strengthen local churches." -- Andy Johnson, "Missions: How the local church goes global"

"The command to be Christ's witness is for all true believers in Him... there can be no burden for distant unreached peoples without a burden for unreached neighbours." -- Dr. R. Kent Hughes



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Witness: Someone who gives attestation of a fact or event. A witness gives testimony or evidence in a legal setting. A witness is also someone who has specific knowledge of something.

My witness is Holy Spirit powered.

- 1. Read Acts 1:8a, John 6:63, Luke 4:1, 14-20. What do you learn about the Holy Spirit in these passages?
- 2. This is the same Holy Spirit that empowers us. Do you think about that when you have the opportunity to witness to others? How can you overcome any obstacles or fears when it comes to sharing the gospel?

My Witness is Christ Commissioned.

- 3. Read Acts 1:8b, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16, Luke 24:45-49, John 20:21. What do these passages tell us to do?
- 4. Christ gives us these commands. Are you obedient to fulfill them? Who can you share this truth with? Where is God sending you to proclaim the gospel?

My Witness is God's Plan to Reach the World.

- 5. Read Acts 1:8c, Luke 10:16, John 17:18, John 20:21, Luke 10:2, John 13:20. What do you learn about being sent?
- 6. Do you know that you are God's plan to reach your neighbourhood as a witness of the Gospel? How do you respond to a statement like that?
- 7. What barriers exist that do not allow you to share the good news of Jesus as a gospel witness?

- 8. Has God called you to be a "missionary" or a "witness"?
- 9. Do you pray for missionaries? Do you support missionaries? If not, how can you?